GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5338
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2001
PRIVATISATION OF HCL
PRAHLAD SINGH PATEL

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to privatise the Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Malazkhand Copper project is also prososed to be privatised;

(d) if not, whether in view of the quality production of the Malazkhand Project the Government propose to set up a smelting plant there; and

(e) if so, the terms and conditions laid down for setting up of a smelting plant?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Government has decided the following disinvestment strategy for Hindustan Copper Limited(HCL):

Phase-I: The Khetri unit of HCL alongwith Taloja Plant will be formed into a separate company. The assets of these units will be valued and will form 49% contribution from HCL in a new company in which 51% equity will be injected by a strategic partner.

Phase-II: The remaining portion of HCL comprising the Indian Copper Complex(ICC) and the Malanjkhand Copper Project(MCP) w be restructured by closure of unviable mines in a phased manner with consequent separation of surplus manpower under Voluntary Retirement Scheme. HCL will then look for one more strategic partner for 51% disinvestment in the remainder of HCL.

The Phase-I process of disinvestment of HCL is at an advanced stage and is likely to be completed within the current financial year.

(c): As per disinvestment strategy, the Malanjkhand Copper Project(MCP) alongwith Indian Copper Complex(ICC) will be restructured in Phase-II.The process of implemention of Phase-II of disinvestment of HCL will be taken when the process of Phase-I of disinvestment is over.

(d) & (e): In view of Govt.`s decision for disinvestment of HCL, there is no proposal for setting up a smelting plant at MCP.